

The LOVE R.

By MARMADUKE MYRTLE, Gent.

Oderint dum Metuant.

Motto on Sir Anthony Crabtree's Coach.

Saturday, March 27. 1714.

I Am to Day very busie, having a Wedding Suit for a Gentleman, and the Knots of the Bride, offered to my Consideration, and the Wedding it self to be on *Easter Tuesday*, therefore the Reader must be contented with this Letter, all which I do not my self understand, for the Entertainment of this Day.

Mr. MYRTLE,

Reading the Letter in your *Lover* of the 20th from your Friend concerning the Family of the Crabtrees, I was pleas'd at the Non-reception of your Friend into that ridiculous Generation, in which Family, as I am told, may be found an Antique Record in *Hebrew*, proving their Original. Sir *Anthony* is cautious of shewing the Manuscript, but his Secretary, with whom I'm well acquainted, and whose Knowledge is great in Crabbed Characters, does assure me it's writ in the Prophane Ignorant Stile used by the Phanatics before the Reformation, and seems to be formed out of the Phrases of the Revelations, with many Periods ending with the Sight of the Beast, and the Image of the Beast, and the like. I think your Friend ought to be thankful for his Deliverance: However, I can't say Sir *Anthony* was always for destroying every thing, having once saved (not his Country) but his House: The Story is thus related by a Servant then living in the Family. It seems, in the Time of Sir *Ralph*, Father to this precious Stick *Anthony*, there was in the Family a Man that had lived long, but wickedly; under the Cloak of Religion; but at length was discovered to have defiled the House with a Maid Servant who proved with Child, which was an abomination to Sir *Ralph*, who turned both out of Doors without paying their Wages, being considerable, and ordered the Bed wherein the Crime had been

(Price Two Pence.)

committed, with the Furniture of that Room, to be burnt, which they were accordingly. The Fellow thought by marrying the Woman, he might so far Ingratiate himself into his Master's Favour, as to get their Wages; but Sir *Ralph* was too Religious to allow any thing could be due to the Wicked. Upon which the Fellow resolved, since he was to be a Loser, his Master should be no Gainer; therefore sent a Message to Sir *Ralph*, to let him know if he would pay him, he had something of moment to impart to him, which might be for the good of him and his Family; to this the old Gentleman gave Ear, and being ever apprehensive of some Plot or other against him (in which Sir *Anthony* takes much after him) resolved to pay the Fellow, and have him examined; and when the great Secret came out, it was that he and the Maid had lain together upon every Bed in the House, and in every Room; upon which the whole House and Furniture was condemned to be burnt on a certain Day; but the Night before the Execution Sir *Anthony* came down to his Father's, and with a high Hand saved House and Goods. This is the plain well-known Matter of Fact, and this is the first House that I ever heard of to have been so near burning by the Fire of Love. I can assure you, the Family is now grown much more polite, but having been bred in such Strictness and Formality, during the time of good Sir *Ralph*, both *Anthony* and his Brother *Zachariah* come into a Wenches Chamber with the same Air they used to enter their Congregations of Saints. It is an hard thing to unlearn Gestures of the Body, and tho' *Anthony* has quite got over all the Prejudices of his Education, not only as to Superstition, but as to Religion also, he makes a very queer Figure, and the persecuted Sneak is still in his Face, tho' he now sets up for a Persecutor.

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‘ If the sower Behaviour and Hypocrisie, which the Enemies to Dissenters accuse them of, was utterly forgotten, and which by their Freedom and more open Communication with the rest of the World, from the Toleration, is really at an End, I say, if all this were wholly out of the Memory of Man, all their Rancour, Spite and Obstinacy might be revived among the *Crabtrees*. This Particular however is to be more emphatically enlarged upon by those who shall write their History, which is, that they are impudent to a Jest. They having as little Respect for Mankind, as Mankind has for them, they do not care how gross the thing is they attempt, so they can carry it. Sir Anthony wanting a Cause, the last Circuit, to keep up the Face of his Grandeur, and to make himself popular, spoke to *Brickdust* to accuse some Body for Disrespect to an *Illustrious Family*. They could not find such a one, but *Brickdust* told him of a Hawker who had Books about him writ in Favour of that House. Sir Anthony said, that would do as well, provided they could persuade People to pronounce the Books were against that Interest. Well, they got the poor Hawker in amongst them, at a County Court, and in spite of all that the Gentlemen of greatest Honour, Quality and Estate could say, the Cry went against the Pedlar. There indeed were a great many People of Sense and Fashion, who are carried away by the *Crabtrees*, solicited to call out, that the Hawker should be turned out of the Place, when they saw, from the Appearance for Him, they could carry it no further. But they could procure no Body to do even this but a natural Fool, who had made Sport at *Winchester* Wedding, and is every where as much known for an Idiot, as if he had his *Moorish* Dancers Habit and Bells on. Thus between Jest and Earnest they turned out the Pedlar for the very contrary of what the Fellow had done. Sir Anthony says this was right, and still professes he is a Friend to that Family; for, says that merry cunning Fellow, if I can bring it to that pass that no body shall dare to speak for them, without my leave, I shall easily manage that no body dare to be against them. This is, Mr. MYRTLE, the Logick of the *Crabtrees*. But I know not how to relate half the fine things I know of them; read *Sancho Pancha's* Government in *Burntaria*, get *Hudibras* by heart, cast your Eye upon Books of Dreams, Incantations and Witchcrafts, and it will give you some faint Pictures of the Exotick and Comick Designs of this unaccountable Race, who are (according to their own different Accounts of their Parts and Births) occasionally *Syrians*, *Egyptians*, *Saxons*, *Arabians*, and every thing but *Welch*, *British*, *Scotch*, *Irish*, or any thing that is for the Interest of these Dominions. As you are the Patron of Love, I desire to know of you whether, after this faithful Representation of things, you ought to lament that your Friend has been rejected by the *Crabtrees*.

Your most humble Servant,

Ephraim Castle soap.

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57

‘ If the *low Behaviour* and *Hypocrisie*, which
 ‘ the *Enemies* to *Dissenters* accuse them of, was
 ‘ utterly forgotten, and which by their *Freedom*
 ‘ and more open *Communication* with the rest of
 ‘ the *World*, from the *Toleration*, is reviv’d at an
 ‘ End, I say, if all this were wholly out of the *Me-
 ‘ mory* of *Man*, all their *Rancour*, *Spite* and *Ob-
 ‘ stinacy* might be revived among the *Crabtrees*.
 ‘ This Particular however is to be more emphati-
 ‘ cally enlarged upon by those who shall write their
 ‘ *History*, which is, that they are impudent to a
 ‘ *Jest*. They having as little *Respect* for *Mankind*,
 ‘ as *Mankind* has for them, they do not care how
 ‘ gross the thing is they attempt, so they can carry it.
 ‘ *Sir Anthony* wanting a *Cause*, the last *Circuit*, to
 ‘ keep up the *Face* of his *Grandeur*, and to make
 ‘ himself popular, spoke to *Brickdust* to accuse
 ‘ some *Body* for *Disrespect* to an *Illustrious Family*.
 ‘ They could not find such a one, but *Brickdust*
 ‘ told him of a *Hawker* who had *Books* about him
 ‘ writ in *Favour* of that *House*. *Sir Anthony* said,
 ‘ that would do as well, provided they could
 ‘ persuade *People* to pronounce the *Books* were a-
 ‘ gainst that *Interest*. Well, they got the poor
 ‘ *Hawker* in amongst them, at a *County Court*,
 ‘ and in spite of all that the *Gentlemen* of greatest
 ‘ *Honour*, *Quality* and *Estate* could say, the *Cry*
 ‘ went against the *Pedlar*. There indeed were a
 ‘ great many *People* of *Sense* and *Fashion*, who
 ‘ are carry’d away by the *Crabtrees*, solicited
 ‘ to call out, that the *Hawker* should be turned
 ‘ out of the *Place*, when they saw, from the Ap-
 ‘ pearance for Him, they could carry it no further.
 ‘ But they could procure no *Body* to do even this
 ‘ but a natural *Fool*, who had made *Sport* at
 ‘ *Winchester* *Wedding*, and is every where as
 ‘ much known for an *Idiot*, as if he had his
 ‘ *Moorish* *Dancers* *Habit* and *Bells* on. Thus
 ‘ between *Jest* and *Earnest* they turned out the
 ‘ *Pedlar* for the very contrary of what the *Fel-
 ‘ low* had done. *Sir Anthony* says this was right,
 ‘ and still professes he is a *Friend* to that *Family*;
 ‘ for, says that merry cunning *Fellow*, if I can
 ‘ bring it to that pass that no *body* shall dare to
 ‘ speak for them, without my leave, I shall easily
 ‘ manage that no *body* dare to be against them.
 ‘ This is, *Mr. MYRTLE*, the *Logick* of the *Crab-
 ‘ trees*. But I know not how to relate half the fine
 ‘ things I know of them; read *Sancho Pancho’s* *Go-
 ‘ vernment* in *Barataria*, get *Hudibras* by heart, cast
 ‘ your *Eye* upon *Books* of *Dreams*, *Incantations*
 ‘ and *Witchcrafts*, and it will give you some faint
 ‘ *Pictures* of the *Exotick* and *Comick* *Designs* of
 ‘ this unaccountable *Race*, who are (according to
 ‘ their own different *Accounts* of their *Parts* and
 ‘ *Births*) occasionally *Syrians*, *Egyptians*, *Saxons*,
 ‘ *Arabians*, and every thing but *Welsh*, *British*,
 ‘ *Scotch*, *Irish*, or any thing that is for the *Interest*
 ‘ of these *Dominions*. As you are the *Patron* of
 ‘ *Love*, I desire to know of you whether, after
 ‘ this faithful *Representation* of things, you ought
 ‘ to lament that your *Friend* has been rejected by
 ‘ the *Crabtrees*.

Your most humble Servants,

Ephraim Castleosop.

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